



MINUTES

OF THE

Grand Prairie Baptist Association.

SESSION OF 1888.

HELD WITH

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church,

PRAIRIE COUNTY, ARK.

—n—

OFFICERS.

J. B. SAUNDERS.....	MODERATOR.
D. S. CANNON,.....	CLERK.
R. K. DOWNS,.....	TREASURER.

MINUTES

OF THE

Grand Prairie Baptist Association.

PLEASANT RIDGE, Prairie Co., Ark.

Pursuant to adjournment messengers assembled in the meeting house at 10:30 A. M. Moderator R. T. Sanders, present, Clerk absent. All sang, "Come Thou Fount." Moderator called the body to order. On motion D. S. Cannon was chosen Clerk, pro. tem. Prayer by Elder R. O. Thomas. All sang "Sweet Bye and Bye." The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder D. S. Cannon, from Malachi iii, 8th verse. Association took recess.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1 o'clock P. M. the Association assembled; sang, "How firm a Foundation." Prayer by Elder N. G. Williams. Letters from the Churches were called for, and as presented read by Elders P. A. Haman and N. G. Williams, from which was made the following roll of Messengers:

Rising Sun Church: L. C. Swartz and C. G. Henderson.

Big Lagrue: J. P. Allen, G. H. Miller and R. F. Parker.

Pleasant Ridge: G. T. Toler, George Jenkins and A. Lampkin.

Dewitt: S. Coffey and D. S. Cannon.

Center Point: G. R. Kent, J. Baper and R. L. Davis.

Hazen: H. G. Munger, W. E. Howard and W. C. Dobbings.

St. Charles: J. N. Worthy and L. A. Worthy.

Oak Grove: J. E. Shear and S. Pearson.

Little Lagrue: S. K. Downs and Sister T. Lockett.

Bayou Meto: J. Carpenter and W. Carmand.

New Hope: J. L. Cooper and Sister S. Cooper.

Bellevue: Represented by Letter and Pastor.

Petitionary Letters called for, Point Deluce Church presented a Letter by J. H. Powell, S. G. Powell and Sister A. B. Powell. On motion, Church was received and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator.

Election of officers was held, resulting in the election of the

following Brethren: J. B. Sanders, Moderator; Elder D. S. Cannon, Clerk; S. K. Downes, Treasurer.

Correspondence called for, whereupon Elders L. F. Taylor and B. F. House were received from Caroline Association as corresponding Messengers.

A committee on religious exercises was announced as follows: S. Coffey R. A. Ricks, S. Pearson and Deacons of Pleasant Ridge Church.

A committee on Finance was appointed as follows: S. Coffey and W. Carman.

Committee on Abstract of Letters: Elder N. G. Williams and Brothers G. Miller and Dr. T. Toler.

Committee on Obituaries: Elders P. A. Hamon, J. E. Henderson and J. N. Worthy.

Standing committee on Education: Elder N. G. Williams, Brethren R. H. Parker and J. N. Worthy.

Sunday Schools: Elders P. A. Hamon, R. L. Davis and H. C. Munger.

On Publications: W. H. Halliberton, J. H. Merrit and S. Coffey.

Foreign Missions: Elders R. G. Thomas, W. T. Webb and G. W. Belcher.

Report of Committee on Religious Exercises: Reported that Elder N. G. Williams preached to-night, he being indisposed, Elder B. F. House preached in his stead. Prayer meeting at 10 A. M. tomorrow, conducted by L. F. Taylor and Elder P. A. Hamon will preach tomorrow afternoon.

Corresponding Messengers to state convention were appointed as follows: Elder R. F. Routh, S. K. Downs, N. G. Williams, P. A. Hamon and J. B. Sanders.

To Southern Baptist Convention: Elder N. G. Williams and J. B. Sanders, and any member of this Association who may be present at said meeting.

Corresponding Messengers to White River Colored Baptist Association: R. H. Parker and C. G. Henderson.

Northeastern Colored Baptist Association: J. B. Sanders, H. C. Munger and Wm Welch. Adjourned until Sunday 10 A. M.

SUNNDAY.

Sunday, 10 A. M. Prayer meeting at 11 A. M. Elder R. F. Routh preached the Missionary Sermon from 10th chapter, 12th verse of St. John. After service a cash collection was taken amounting to \$4 50 and associational pledges to the amount of \$64 50.

Sunday, 3 o'clock preaching by Elder P. A. Hammon, from Romans 6th chapter, 4th verse, after which a cash collection was taken for the benefit of Sister Morris, amounting to \$12 25.

Preaching at night by Elder B. F. Taylor.

Monday morning at 9 A. M. Association assembled by singing "What a Friend we Have in Jesus," Prayer by Elder B. F. Taylor.

REPORTS.

Education.

Reports of standing committees were called for, whereupon the Committee on Education made the following report: Your committee to whom was referred the subject of education, reports: Education means enlightenment, proper education is very beneficial. the most serviceable and effective factors in educating are good schools available to all, and educated teachers. and preachers. To make good schools available to all necessitates a free system. We therefore recommend that our people encourage and sustain free schools as far as they can, to have educated teachers and preachers. It is needful that there be schools of a system of thorough instruction, the advantages of which they may enjoy. It is a matter of congratulation that we have a Baptist school of this character at Arkadelphia, (Ouachita College) and we recommend that a committee on Ouachita College be appointed to draw up a report to be made the order of business for 10 A. M. Monday. We further recommend that our Churches demand of their preachers that they give themselves more fully to the study of God's word that they may be educated in scriptural teaching and that the churches sustain them in their worthy work.

ELDER P. A. HAMAN

S. K. DOWNS,

Committee.

It was ordered by the Association that the Articles of Faith be published in the minutes, but having none from which to copy, we are forced to omit, which we regret

E. A. B.

ELDER N. G. W.

Foreign Missions.

Your committee on Foreign Missions report that this body has great reasons to rejoice on account of the grand move now being made in the missionary work, and do most heartily recommend that this body use all the means available for the furtherance of this noble work. Realizing this to be the Spirit of Christ: We therefore recommend that each Church adopt a systematic plan by which quarterly collections may be secured from each member for foreign missions.

D. S. CANNON, Ch'n.

Sunday Schools.

We your committee on Sunday Schools, report: We find in the reading of the letters sent up to this body that there are only six Sunday schools in the 13

churches comprising this Association. We deplore the lacking of interest in Sunday school work, realizing that great good is accomplished by an evergreen Sabbath school. Would recommend that every Pastor, our missionaries and our Sunday school superintendents urge the necessity of organizing a Sunday school in every Church, or community where there is none.

S. COFFEY, Ch'n.

ELDER N. G. WILLIAMS.

Publications.

Your Committee on Publications reports as follows: As the printing press is a means in the hands of God to enlighten his creatures, as the Bible is the lamp to our feet and a light to our pathway in life, we would recommend the Bible first of all. We furthermore would recommend the Arkansas Baptist, published at Little Rock, also Kind Words for lesson papers and quarterlies for Sunday schools, published at Atlanta, Georgia.

ELDER R. F. ROUTH, Ch'n.

Abstracts of Letters.

Your Committee on Abstracts of Letters, report as follows: Rising Sun reports peace, harmony and good spiritual condition; Center Point, spiritual condition greatly revived; Little Lagrue, at peace and in good spiritual condition, asks to be continued as a mission point; Pleasant Ridge, Peace and harmony, no house of worship; St. Charles, at peace and petitions to be made mission point; Oak Grove, Peace and Harmony; Hazen, condition not reported; Bayou Meto, spiritual condition good; Big Lagure, at peace, the spiritual condition and growth good; New Hope, Peace and harmony and greatly revived; Dewitt, very low spiritual condition, without a pastor; Point Deluce, good spiritual condition; Bellevue, greatly revived and in good spiritual condition.

ELDER N. G. WILLIAMS, Ch'n'r

BROTHER G. MILLER,

Obituaries.

Your committee would report as follows: In our report it is our painful duty to record the death of our beloved Brother E. T. Mitchell, which event occurred in July last. Brother Mitchell was a Deacon of Liberty church, the duties of which office he performed fairly well. He was the first treasurer of our Association, he attended all of the sessions when health permitted, he was a true Baptist, firm in the Faith which he loved, yet he possessed that true scriptural charity that caused him to warmly fellowship as Christians all in whom he saw the image of Jesus. He was a peace maker seeking as such the peaceful interests of his community. Again, he was earnest in his work as a Christian, he was plain and thoroughly devoid of hypocrisy, these are the most prominent traits in

Christian graces that characterized and adorned his life. He was about 76 years of age at his death. We are also saddened to record the death of J. T. Corder, of St. Charles Church, he died in May. Brother Corder had been licensed to exercise his gift as a preacher, had entered actively upon the work so that we feel that in his death we lose a brother beloved who was just setting out upon a career of usefulness. He was an exemplary Christian man and as such enjoyed the general esteem of his Church and community. He was about 48 years of age at his death. We extend our sympathy to these families bereaved of these Brethren.

Respectfully submitted,

ELDER P. A. HAMAN,

J. N. WORTHY,

J. C. HENDERSON,

Committee.

Missionary Secretary.

Your Missionary Secretary would report: For want of means, nothing has been done, in pursuance of the end for which he was elected. No funds for missionary purposes were placed at his disposal, he would most earnestly recommend the continuance of a Missionary Secretary with the additional duty of visiting every Church once during the year preaching to them about missions and mission work, and in every way he can endeavoring to arouse a zealous missionary spirit which is but the spirit of Christianity, and that he call upon the Churches thus visited for means to defray the expenses of said work and let the Brethren thus visited interest themselves in getting full congregations to meet him and means to defray expenses.

Respectfully submitted,

P. A. HAMAN, M. S.,

Executive Board.

We met on the fifth (5th) Sunday in Nov. 1887, at Liberty Church, and employed Elder R. F. Routh as Missionary, fixing his salary at the rate of \$500 00 per annum, for \$300 00 the board became responsible and the remainder of his salary to be collected on the field, said missionary served 8 months, the results to be seen in his report and submitted as part of our report: Missionary Report 1888: Sermons preached 175, Public Prayers offered 279, Religious visits 322, Average attendance 79, Churches organized 1, Churches re-organized 2, Churches supplied 4, Received by Baptism 93, Received by letter 22, Received by Statement 13, Total 128; Awaiting Baptism, 10, Miles traveled, 2242; Received from Treasurer \$200 00, Collected on the Field \$200 00, Total \$400 00.

R. F. ROUTH, Missionary,

J. B. SANDERS, Chairman,

R. H. PARKER, Secretary.

Treasurer's Report.

S. K. DOWNS, Treasurer,

In account with Grand Prairie Baptist Association.

RECEIPTS.

Oct. 2, 1887, Balance on hand.....	\$ 48 00
Oct. 7, 1888, Sunday's collection.....	15 70
Amount of pledges redeemed for 1888.....	182 95
For minutes.....	22 75
Foreign mission.....	8 00
Total.....	\$213 70

CREDITS.

Cash collection for Sister Morris given to Brother P. A. Haman.....	\$ 12 25
Oct. 7, 1888, Paid Elder R. F. Routh, Missionary....	200 00
For minutes.....	22 75
Foreign missions.....	8 00
Total.....	\$230 75
Balance on hand.....	60 80

List of pledges taken on Sunday for 1889:

H. C. Munger and wife.....	\$10 00
R. F. Routh.....	10 00
W. D. Robertson.....	1 00
J. J. Johnson.....	1 00
J. A. Messon.....	1 00
J. B. Toler.....	1 00
Samuel Pearson.....	1 00
W. A. Haliburton.....	10 00
Albert Powell.....	1 00
E. E. Higginbottom.....	1 00
R. G. Tommers.....	5 00
L. C. Swartz.....	4 00
Joe Sanders.....	5 00
J. N. Worthy.....	5 00
L. F. Taylor.....	5 00
P. S. Simmons.....	2 50
Rising Sun Church.....	34 50
Bellevue.....	20 25

Members of the Executive Board for 1888-89:

Rising Sun.....	C. J. Henderson.
Big Lagrue.....	R. H. Parke.
Pleasant Ridge.....	J. T. Lumpkin.
Dewitt.....	S. Coffey.
Center Point.....	R. L. Davis.
New Hope.....	J. L. Cooper.
Liberty.....	A. D. Webster.

Hazen.....	Wm. Welch.
St. Charles.....	J. N. Worthy.
Oak Grove.....	G. W. Belcher.
Little Lagrue.....	W. C. Lockett.
Bayou Meto.....	G. W. Bayliss.
Point Deluce.....	H. Powell.
Bellevue.....	John Gay.
Committee on Finance report for minutes.....\$22 75	
S. COFFEY, Chairman.	

Resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That the Churches be requested to send up contribution annually for the assistance of Sister Morris.

2. *Resolved*, That some part of Sunday of each session of the Association be devoted to Sunday school work.

H. C. MUNGER,

3. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to this Church and community for their hospitality to us so cheerfully and liberally extended. P. S. HAMAN.

Elder N. G. Williams was appointed to preach the introductory sermon, R. J. Thomas, alternate. Elder B. F. House to preach the missionary sermon, alternate P. A. Haman.

The Clerk was instructed to have as many minutes printed as he could for the money on hand, and to distribute among the Churches, according to the amount sent up by each Church.

Minutes read and approved. A motion to adjourn was carried, whereupon the parting hand was given amid singing and tears, so we closed to meet (D. V.) with New Hope Church, 15 miles west of Dewitt, at 9 A. M. Saturday before the 3rd Lord's day in October 1889.

J. B. SANDERS, Moderator,

D. S. CANNON, Clerk.

NOTE.

Dear Brethren: We the undersigned, in order to supply the Association with the Minutes of its last session volunteered to compile and forward for publication, and from the manuscript before us we have done the very best we could, and if there is any omission, it was made in the manuscript while the Association was in session.

Respectfully submitted,

E. A. BOURLON,

ELDER N. G. WILLIAMS.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

NAMES.	MESSENGERS.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	In'd.			De'd.			Total.	For Minutes.	Day of Meeting
						Baptized.	By Letter.	Statement.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.		
Bellevue.....	By Letter	N G Williams...	St Charles.....	Joh Gay.....	Ethel	23	5	2	...	...	...	57	\$1 00	3d Sun.
Center Point...	J R Kent, J Roper.....	B F House	Hickory Plains..	J R Sanders.....	Hazen	9	4	...	...	2	...	37	1 75	3d Sun.
Dewitt	S Coffey, Elder D S Canno.....	No Pastor.....	Dewitt	S Coffey	Dewitt.....	...	...	...	...	7	7	117	1 00	d Sun.
Hazen.....	H C Munger, W E Howard	P A Haman.....	Carlisle.....	H G Miller.....	Hazen .....	...	4	...	...	2	...	152	2 00	.....
Big Lagrue.....	R F Parker, J P Allen, J W Miller.....	R F Routh.....	Fairmount	R F Parker.....	St. Charles.....	48	11	3	...	1	...	65	2 50	1t Sun.
St. Charles.....	J N Worthy, L Worthy.....	N G Williams...	St. Charles.	E. Bourlon	St. Charles..	...	...	...	...	3	2	18	2 00	2d Sun.
Oak Grove.....	J W Belcher, J E Shearer.....	D T Cannon.....	Dewitt.	H T Webb.....	Hamilton.....	13	5	5	...	8	2	385	2 10	3d Sun.
Little Lagrue...	S K Downs, T Luskett	R F Routh.	Fairmount	A J. Barker	Huttgart.....	4	4	1	...	1	...	217	1 30	4th Sun.
Rising Sun.....	L Swartz, C J Henderson	N G Williams..	St. Charles.....	W B Reagan	Crockett's Bluff..	9	...	1	...	6	1	354	3 40	1t Sun.
New Hope.....	J L Cooper, S Cooper.....	No Pastor.....	.....	J W Scott.....	Hagler.....	21	...	...	2	6	...	262	2 00	.....
Bayou Meto....	N M Henderson, J Carpenter, W Carman.	R F Routh.....	Fairmount.	J W B yless.....	Goldman	11	...	1	...	...	...	128	1 50	.....
Point Deluce...	J H Powell, S J Powell.....	R F Routh.....	Fairmount	B K Adams.....	Deluce.....	9	6	...	...	...	...	22	1 00	.....
Pleasant Ridge.	J W Toler, J W Jenkins, A F Lumpkin.....	R G Thomas.....	Hamilton	R A Ricks.....	Walters Chapel...	2	2	2	123	1 00	4th Sun.

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